

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8713

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4305

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJ: CANADA AND UK PARTICIPATION IN 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM CANADIAN EMBASSY THAT DELEGATION FROM THE CANADIAN LEGION WILL BE IN MOSCOW FROM MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 11 AS OFFICIAL GUESTS OF THE USSR IN CONNECTION WITH THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF VE DAY. IN ADDITION TO MOSCOW DELEGATION WILL VISIT LENINGRAD, VOLVOGRAD AND EITHER SAMARKAND OR TBILISI. DELEGATION WILL CONSIST OF THE FIVE MOST SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE LEGION, I.E., PRESIDENT, THREE VICE PRESIDENTS AND GENERAL SECRETARY. IT WILL BE PAYING OWN AIRFARE BUT SOVIETS WILL ASSUME ALL COSTS WITHIN USSR.

2. UK POLITICAL COUNSELOR HAS INFORMED US THAT THE BRITISH DELEGATION WILL CONSIST NOT ONLY OF VETERANS BUT OF OTHER GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE FIGURES AS WELL AND IT WILL BE REGARDED AS AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO THE CELEBRATIONS.

3. RE PLAGUE UNVEILING IN MURMANSK (REFTEL), BRITISH HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT SHORTLY BEFORE OR SHORTLY AFTER MAY 9 BRITISH AMBASSADOR AND MILITARY ATTACHES WILL BE
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INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THAT CEREMONY.

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Message Attributes

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